

Job 19:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Oh that my words were now written! oh that they were
printed in a book!

Analysis

Job wishes 'Oh that my words were now written! oh that they were printed in a book!' This desire for permanent record anticipates the book of Job itself. Job's suffering and defense become Scripture, making his words available for all who suffer.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern writing on stone, pottery, or papyrus provided permanence. Job's wish for written record reflects desire for vindication beyond his lifetime.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does Job's written record comfort you in suffering?
2. What does it mean that Scripture includes honest lament and accusation?

Interlinear Text

מִי	יְהִי	אֲפֹ	וְכָתַב	מִלִּי	מִי	יְהִי	בֵּסֶפֶר
H4310	oh that	were now	written	my words	H4310	oh that	in a book
	H5414	H645	H3789	H4405		H5414	H5612

וְהִדְפּוּ:

they were printed

H2710

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 30:8 (Parallel theme): Now go, write it before them in a table, and note it in a book, that it may be for the time to come for ever and ever:

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